

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method for the production of a modified material, having the following steps:

Generation of a high-frequency field in a chamber (2) of a plasmatron (1);

Introduction of a plasma gas into chamber (2);

Generation of a plasma with the plasma gas by the high-frequency field; and

Introduction of initial material into the plasma.

2. (Original) The method according to claim 1 for the production of a modified carbon material, in particular a carbon material, which has graphitic and/or non-graphitic carbon components and also, optionally, hydrocarbon components.

3. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 1 ~~or~~ 2, further characterized in that the initial material is introduced by blowing in material particles along with a transport gas into chamber (2).

4. (Original) The method according to claim 3, further characterized in that the initial material is conducted through the plasma by means of an inlet pressure of the transport gas and, after a defined residence time in the plasma, leaves the plasma on the side essentially lying opposite the

inlet side of the plasma.

5. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 4, further characterized in that this method is conducted at normal pressure or approximately at normal pressure.

6. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 5, further characterized in that the initial material is supplied to the plasma underneath an inductor of the plasmatron.

7. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 6, further characterized in that it has the additional step of separating the modified material in chamber (2) by means of a mechanical filter (9).

8. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 7, further characterized in that the plasma gas has a defined oxygen partial pressure, in particular from 10 to 10,000 Pa.

9. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 8, further characterized in that the oxygen content amounts to 0.01 to 10 vol. %.

10. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 9, further

characterized in that the plasma gas contains an inert gas.

11. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 10, further characterized in that, in addition, a reaction gas and/or a quenching gas is introduced into the chamber.

12. (Currently amended) The method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 to 11, further characterized in that the high-frequency field has a frequency in a range from 1 to 30 MHz.

13. (Currently amended) A plasmatron (~~1~~) for the production of a modified material (~~M~~), having:

a chamber (~~2~~), at least one high-frequency inductor (~~3~~) disposed in at least one region of chamber (~~2~~), a gas supply line (~~10, 11~~) for introducing a plasma gas into the region of a high-frequency field generated by high-frequency inductor (~~3~~), and a material supply line (~~4~~) for blowing in initial material with a transport gas into the plasma generated by high-frequency inductor (~~3~~) with the plasma gas.

14. (Currently amended) The plasmatron according to claim 13, further characterized in that the plasmatron has means for conducting ~~the a method according to one of claims 1 to 12~~ for the production of a modified material having the following steps:

Generation of a high-frequency field in a chamber of a plasmatron;

Introduction of a plasma gas into chamber;

Generation of a plasma with the plasma gas by the high-frequency field; and

Introduction of initial material into the plasma.

15. (Currently amended) The plasmatron according to claim 13 ~~or~~ 14, further characterized in that the material supply line (4) reaches up to the edge of the plasma generated by high-frequency inductor (3).

16. (Currently amended) The plasmatron according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 13 ~~to~~ 15, further characterized in that the material supply line (4) is joined with a powder transport device (12) for generation of an initial material/gas mixture.

17. (Currently amended) The plasmatron (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 13 ~~to~~ 16, further characterized in that the high-frequency inductor (3) is joined with a power generator (15) for generating high-frequency current.

18. (Currently amended) The plasmatron (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 13 ~~to~~ 17, further characterized in that it has a gas supply line (16) for introducing a reaction gas and/or a quenching gas, which is disposed behind the inductor away from the inlet side of the plasma.

19. (Currently amended) The plasmatron (1) according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 13 ~~to~~ 18, further characterized in that, in addition, it has a mechanical filter (9) for separating the modified initial material (14).

20. (Original) A carbon material with edges modified by action of plasma and oxygen.

21. (Currently amended) A carbon material, which can be produced with the method according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 1 ~~to 12~~ or with ~~the~~ a plasmatron (1) ~~according to one of claims 13 to 19~~ for the production of a modified material, having: a chamber, at least one high-frequency inductor disposed in at least one region of chamber, a gas supply line for introducing a plasma gas into the region of a high-frequency field generated by high-frequency inductor, and a material supply line for blowing in initial material with a transport gas into the plasma generated by high-frequency inductor with the plasma gas.

22. (Currently amended) The carbon material according to claim 20 ~~or 21~~, further characterized in that the modified edges have a rounded shape in comparison to unmodified edges.

23. (Currently amended) The carbon material according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 20 ~~to 22~~, further characterized in that it has an irreversible absorbing capacity for alkali and/or alkaline-earth ions that is reduced in comparison to untreated initial carbon material.

24. (Currently amended) The carbon material according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 20 ~~to 23~~, further characterized in that this material has graphitic and/or non-graphitic carbon components and also, optionally, hydrocarbon components.

25. (Currently amended) Use of a carbon material according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 20 to 24 or which can be produced by ~~the a method according to claims 1 to 12~~ comprising the steps of generation of a high-frequency field in a chamber of a plasmatron; introduction of a plasma gas into chamber; generation of a plasma with the plasma gas by the high-frequency field; and introduction of initial material into the plasma or with a plasmatron (1) ~~according to claims 13 to 19~~ having: a chamber, at least one high-frequency inductor disposed in at least one region of chamber, a gas supply line for introducing a plasma gas into the region of a high-frequency field generated by high-frequency inductor, and a material supply line for blowing in initial material with a transport gas into the plasma generated by high-frequency inductor with the plasma gas as an electrode material for a lithium-ion rechargeable battery.

26. (Original) The use according to claim 25, further characterized in that the electrode material is an anode material.

27. (Currently amended) The use according to claim 25 ~~or 26~~, further characterized in that the carbon material is shaped into an anode.

28. (Currently amended) Use of a carbon material according to ~~one of claims~~ claim 20 to 24 or which can be produced by ~~the a method according to claims 1 to 12~~ comprising the steps of generation of a high-frequency field in a chamber of a plasmatron; introduction of a plasma gas into chamber; generation of a plasma with the plasma gas by the high-frequency field; and introduction of initial material into the plasma or with a plasmatron (1) ~~according to claims 13 to~~

~~19~~ having: a chamber, at least one high-frequency inductor disposed in at least one region of chamber, a gas supply line for introducing a plasma gas into the region of a high-frequency field generated by high-frequency inductor, and a material supply line for blowing in initial material with a transport gas into the plasma generated by high-frequency inductor with the plasma gas as an additive.

29. (Original) The use according to claim 28, further characterized in that the carbon material is mixed with an initial material in order to form a composite material.